

News

Q proposes to solve Arab disputes

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (R)—Iraq has proposed a charter for Arab states renouncing the use of force to resolve inter-Arab disputes opposing the presence of foreign troops or military bases on soil, the Iraqi News Agency reported today. The eight-point charter, governing relations between Arab states and their neighbours, was presented by President Saddam Hussein, who was addressing a mass rally on the anniversary of the Feb. 8, 1963, revolution which toppled the regime of late President Abdul Karim Qassem. The charter rejects the use of foreign troops or bases on Arab territory and opposes granting of any facilities to foreign powers under any pretext. It provides for a boycott of any Arab state which does not abide by its principles. The use of armed force between Arab states is prohibited by the charter, which calls for peaceful methods to solve differences.

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AMMAN, SATURDAY FEBRUARY 9, 1980 — RABIA ALAWAL 23, 1400

Qawasmeh to seek court ruling on land

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 8 (R)—An Arab mayor announced a court campaign today to force the return to Arab ownership of land that now houses a militant Jewish settlement on the occupied West Bank. Mayor Fahd Qawasmeh of Hebron said he will ask the Israeli Supreme Court to order the return of the land near the city, on part of which the Jewish suburb of Kiryat Arba is built. Mr. Qawasmeh said he will base his appeal on the successful case of other Arab landowners, who had the settlement of Elon Moreh, near Nablus, evacuated and their land returned after a landmark court ruling in their favour. Tensions continued to run high in Hebron, which was under partial curfew for the ninth day following the killing of an Israeli soldier on Thursday last week. Kiryat Arba residents have called for a strike on Sunday to mark the killing of the Israeli, and many have urged the government to permit Jews to live again in houses in Hebron that were abandoned in 1929 after Arab-Jewish clashes.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Iranian militant students deny 'stages' release is imminent

Feb. 8 (R)—Militants in the U.S. embassy in Amman today accused rumours of spreading false reports of the imminent release of their American hostages. A spokesman told that if there was any release of the hostages it would be the United States was forced to extricate them from the hands of the deposed Shah.

extradition of the Shah will lead to the release of the hostages. This is our stand and it has not changed." He added: "We don't know precisely who is rumour-mongering."

Rumours of an imminent end to the crisis have apparently stemmed from expressions of cautious optimism by United Nations and U.S. officials following the election of President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr.

The embassy students last night met in full council under the chairmanship of their spiritual leader, Hojatoleslam Seyyed Mohammad Mousavi Kho'ini.

Sources close to the students said the main preoccupations of the meeting were not the hostage situation but the recent attacks on them by President Bani-Sadr and the state of health of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The ailing revolutionary leader yesterday approved the appointment of President Bani-Sadr as head of the ruling Revolutionary Council until the formation of a parliament next April.

The move gave the president executive powers over the council, which will continue to operate as a government until the elected assembly is formed.

President Bani-Sadr has accused the students of being lawless and un-Islamic and of acting like a government within a government by their interference in internal affairs.

He was particularly angered by their broadcast this week of captured embassy documents alleged to show that Information Minister

Nasser Minachi was a collaborator with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Mr. Minachi was arrested shortly afterwards by revolutionary guards but released on the orders of the Revolutionary Council within 24 hours.

Sources close to the students said their tactics to combat President Bani-Sadr's criticism would take into account the state of health of Ayatollah Khomeini, recovering in a Tehran hospital from a heart ailment.

The sources said the students had been informed by the Ayatollah's doctors that he must not be exposed to any unnecessary stress or excitement for the next two months.

The revolutionary leader, 80 this year, today left his bed to greet some 200 official guests, here to celebrate the first anniversary of the Iranian revolution.

Hospital sources said the Ayatollah was well and had walked in the hospital for some 20 minutes today although they said they were surprised by the weakness of his voice during a brief address to the visitors.

The students have consistently said they will only obey the orders of Ayatollah Khomeini concerning the hostages and not those of the government or the president.

The deposed Shah may face extradition proceedings when Iran has furnished Panama with documents supporting its case against him.

The students persistently refer to their demand that the United States extradite the former Shah, explaining that they regard the Panamanian government as a U.S. puppet.

The students are playing host to a group of 49 American radicals led by Kansas university sociologist Norman Foner.

Professor Foner today angrily dismissed foreign journalists from his central Tehran hotel, a few hundred metres from the occupied embassy. He said: "You people don't understand Iran. You have no sympathy for it."

A Reuters correspondent and a woman colleague were escorted from the hotel at gunpoint.

There were scuffles near the U.S. embassy, apparently involving rival supporters of the right-wing Fedayeen Islam and the radical People's Mujahedin guerrillas. Both groups support the embassy occupation but have few other ideological links.



Palestinian regulars serving with the peacekeeping Arab Deterrent Force in Lebanon are shown during a regular patrol through Beirut's bomb-marked tourist quarter of Ein Mreisse Friday, 72 hours after Syria announced its decision to withdraw its forces, which constitute the bulk of the ADF, from the troubled Lebanese capital. (AP wirephoto)

Tension runs high throughout Lebanon

BEIRUT, Feb. 8 (Agencies)—Tension was high throughout Lebanon today as snipers shut down Beirut's main highway, right-wing gunmen refused

to release nine abducted soldiers and Israel warned it will not stand idle by if the situation here turned against the Zionist state's liking.

One woman was killed and five people were injured in shelling on the South Lebanese market town of Nabatiyyeh today, residents said.

They said intermittent artillery fire from rightist militia positions lasted about an hour. It was concentrated on a military barracks occupied by leftist Lebanese militia forces.

The shelling followed a heavy bombardment of the town and the surrounding area last night but there were no casualties.

Three Israeli jets today flew over the southern towns of Tyre and Sidon, drawing groundfire, local residents reported.

Artillery battles have been going on in the south for more than two weeks, following troop movements in both sides of the Israeli-Lebanese border.

Two people were wounded in central Beirut by sniper fire today after heavy fighting last night in which two people died and three were injured, security sources said.

The clashes reflected mounting tension in the Lebanese capital over an imminent withdrawal of Syrian peace-keeping troops.

Syria's decision to pull out its

troops from Beirut has sparked fears of fresh battles between rightists and pro-Palestinian leftists who fought the 1975-76 civil war, in which 60,000 people died.

A spokesman for the rightist Falangist Party said that one man was killed and 18 people wounded in fighting yesterday between rival right-wing militia in North Lebanon.

Unseen gunmen perched in the bombed-out buildings along Beirut's "Green Line" which separates the two sectors, fired warning shots at the Fuad Chehab overpass, keeping the main artery closed for the second straight day.

Two women motorists were shot dead on the road last night.

Gunmen from the right-wing "Cedar Guards," a small right-wing militia group, abducted nine Lebanese soldiers yesterday and said the men would not be released until a group of "Cedars" militiamen are released from a Lebanese jail.

The Cedar gunmen were arrested about seven months ago after a shoot-out in a cabaret in which a Syrian peacekeeping soldier was killed.

In Tel Aviv, Israeli Defence Minister Ezer Weizman has warned the Palestine Liberation Organisation not to take advantage of Syrian redeployment of troops in Lebanon to launch attacks on Israel.

"I should like to make it absolutely clear to Syria and all other interested parties that Israel is not interested in any kind of military operation although our forces continued to be on a high alert," he said in interviews published today by two afternoon papers, Maariv and Yediot Aharonot.

But he warned the PLO "not to take advantage of the Syrian redeployment of troops in Lebanon to launch attacks against Israel."

A Damascus newspaper said today, Lebanese rightist attempts to undermine relations between Lebanon and Syria had succeeded in creating a gap between the two governments.

Al Baath, the paper of the ruling Baath Socialist Party, said Syria would not pay any attention to attempts by some Lebanese

politicians led by former President Camille Chamoun to misrepresent the Syrian attitude in order to undermine relations between Beirut and Damascus.



Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss

Lebanese Premier Salim Al Hoss said in Beirut last night that only close cooperation with Syria could end the Lebanese crisis.

His comments followed reports that Syria's decision to pull an estimated 8,000 troops out of Beirut was prompted by official displeasure in Damascus over the way the Lebanese government was handling anti-Syrian parties.

Some right-wing groups in Lebanon, including Mr. Chamoun's National Liberal Party, regard the Syrians as an army of occupation.

In a reference to Israeli support of the right-wing militias in Lebanon, Al Baath added: "All Lebanese knew well who had backed these people."

"Syria stood against them; when they provoked problems against Syria to create a gap between Syria and the legal authority (in Lebanon)," the paper said.

Israeli Premier Menachem Begin pledged yesterday to stand by Lebanon's rightists if factional hostilities erupted again after the Syrian pull-out from Beirut. "We shall not allow the Christians to be subjected to pogroms either in North Lebanon or the south," he told a Jerusalem news conference.

Regional Briefs

Feb. 8 (R)—Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has propounded Muslim holy places such as Mecca and Medina as state like the Vatican, the newspaper Al Ahram said speaking to tribal chiefs. Col. Qadhafi said the creation of such a state ought to be discussed at a future summit, according to the newspaper. Mecca, Islam's shrine, and Medina are both in Saudi Arabia. Jerusalem, sacred to Muslims, is under Israeli occupation. Al said Col. Qadhafi proposed that an extra-territorial Muslim state should be collectively financed by all Islamic states, headed by a dignitary elected by them and have its visitors, guards and other officials. The Vatican, a state in leasing 44 hectares, also has sovereignty over a number of houses and administrative buildings outside its walls.

Feb. 8 (R)—The Amir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin Al Khalifa, today received a message from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba on the rapidly deteriorating relations between Tunisia and the Libyan Jamahiriyyah. The Gulf News said the message was conveyed by Tunisian Foreign Minister Muhammad Fattouh who flew in from Muscat yesterday on his way to a Gulf tour explaining his country's dispute with the Tunisian government. The Tunisian government accused Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi of organising last week's commando attack on the town of Gafsa in which 41 people died. The Tunisian "has conveyed similar messages to the leaders of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Oman. Another Tunisian Mr. Muhammad Mizal has already visited Jordan, Iraq and similar missions."

Feb. 8 (R)—President Moussa Traore of Mali said just last week that peace in the Middle East could be achieved only with the withdrawal of Israel from occupied territories including Jerusalem, and the recovery of Palestinian residents from speaking during a visit to Kuneitra, in the Heights. He held talks last night with Syrian President Assad on bilateral relations and Arab developments. The Traore had already visited Baghdad and held similar talks with Iraqi leaders.

Feb. 8 (R)—Guerrillas fighting for the independence of Eritrea's strategic Eritrea province said today they had killed 40 government soldiers in a one-week battle north of the port of Assab. A spokesman for the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) said the battle, involving guerrillas and artillery, was fought from Jan. 24 to 31 when units broke out of the encircled towns of Thio and Anseba. At the end of this week's Franco-West German summit talks, a joint communique condemned the Soviet military action in Afghanistan and warned the Kremlin that similar Soviet intervention elsewhere would trigger European-backed allied reaction. But France is opposed to

France declines to attend Bonn western meeting on Afghanistan

PARIS, Feb. 8 (Agencies)—France will not attend a meeting between U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and other western foreign ministers to be held in Bonn on Feb. 20 to discuss reaction to the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

"France is ready to pursue consultations with its partners on various aspects of the international situation," a presidential palace official said. "On the other hand, France is opposed to the holding of a joint meeting which is not of a nature to reduce international tension."

At the end of this week's Franco-West German summit talks, a joint communique condemned the Soviet military action in Afghanistan and warned the Kremlin that similar Soviet intervention elsewhere would trigger European-backed allied reaction. But France is opposed to

economic sanctions, and is determined to pursue a dialogue with Moscow to salvage east-west détente.

In Washington, U.S. officials said today they were disappointed by France's decision not to attend the Bonn meeting.

The officials said West Germany had suggested holding a meeting of foreign ministers in Bonn during a planned visit by Secretary Vance later this month.

They said the State Department would probably confirm Mr. Vance's visit later today, but that the main aim of the trip had been removed as a result of the French action.

In Bonn, a foreign ministry spokesman said Mr. Vance was expected in the West German capital on Feb. 20, but that no multilateral meeting was contemplated.

Informed sources in Bonn said last night that a meeting of foreign ministers representing the U.S., West Germany, Britain, France and Italy had been tentatively scheduled for Feb. 21 and 22. This would have coincided with Mr. Vance's visit.

Meanwhile, the spokesman for a group of six U.S. congressmen currently visiting New Delhi today applauded Indian diplomatic attempts to reduce tensions resulting from the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Democratic Representative David Obey, leader of the group, told reporters after a 50-minute meeting with Premier Indira Gandhi: "I don't know what will per-

suade the Soviet Union to withdraw from Afghanistan. But the Indian initiative would be a most constructive thing to be done to cool tensions."

President Carter's personal representative, Mr. Clark Clifford, saw Mrs. Gandhi last week, and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko is scheduled to arrive on Tuesday. In addition, Indian officials have either visited or are in the process of visiting Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh as part of the government's attempt to cool tensions.

The U.S. congressmen arrived in India after visiting Britain, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.

Mr. Obey said the question of arms for both Pakistan and India had come up in talks with Mrs. Gandhi, who expressed concern about America's decision to rearm Pakistan. He gave no details.

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11. Messrs. Deloitte, Haskins & Sells, one of the eight largest international auditing firms, has been appointed as auditors to the company.
12. The Prospectus has been drafted by international consultants in accordance with international practice in the investment field.

N.B. These notes do not constitute a part of the Company's Prospectus.
(Continued on page 2)

IED JERUSALEM, Feb. 8 (R)—Premier Menachem Begin today told the first group of Egyptian tourists to Israel that it marks the beginning of prosperity for the two nations. In his reception at the premier's office here, Mr. Begin said: "It is a symbol of the brotherhood we can create. We made it in Egypt... Enjoy your trip. And if you choose, you may ever." The visitors, most of them Jews from Cairo and Irbid, left their seats and crowded round Mr. Begin's table to toast Dr. El-Yahya Ben Elissar, Israel's ambassador in Egypt. The group presented Mr. Begin and Dr. Ben Elissar with a commentary on the Bible, written by an 85 year old woman from Alexandria.



Secretary of State Vance

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Jordan's Roman Catholic bishop tells of acts against Christians in Israel, West Bank

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, Feb. 8 — West Bank Christian leaders say an extremist Jewish group killed a Christian priest in Jerusalem last year. Bishop Nimeh Sima'an, Jordan's Roman Catholic (Latin) bishop

told the Jordan Times today. He said that he learned this week from "West Bank religious sources" that last October the Greek Orthodox parish priest of St. Jacob's Church (near the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem) was "assassinated by members of Rabbi Meir Kahane's fanatical Jewish group."

Rabbi Kahane is the founder of the radical U.S.-based Jewish Defence League and leader of the Kach sect, operating in Israel, which preaches violent methods to uphold Jewish supremacy.

Bishop Sima'an said that the Greek Orthodox patriarch made a strong speech denouncing both the murder and the unwillingness

of Israeli authorities thoroughly to investigate the matter and punish the offenders. During a meeting with Israeli President Itzhak Navon on Jan. 1.

The meeting, an annual event held by the president to give his regards for the new year to some 20 Christian leaders residing in the West Bank and Israel, is considered to be largely a protocol affair. In the context of the meeting, the protest from the not usually outspoken Orthodox patriarch was extraordinary. Bishop Sima'an said.

He added that the protest had been lodged after no action had been taken on a memorandum detailing incidents of Jewish violence against Christians that was presented to Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin last November or December by Christian religious leaders.

The memorandum protested not only the murder but also incidents of Kach desecration of Christian shrines. It said that the group had smashed stained glass windows at the Church of the Dormition on Mount Zion, defaced Christian tombstones, vandalised Christian bookshops and smashed property at a Baptist house in Israel. The group is also accused of writing slanderous graffiti on churches and painting swastikas on their walls.

Bishop Sima'an said he knew of no particular motive for the murder of the Orthodox priest, but said that the Kach group has claimed that Christians have been proselytising among Jews and desecrating the "Jewish character of Jerusalem."

The memorandum, said to be the first of its kind sent by Christians from both Israel and the West Bank, was signed by Father Mancini of the Roman Catholic Christian Information Centre, Father Bargil Pixner of the Church of the Dormition and Reverend Roy Kreider of the predominantly Protestant United Christian Council in Israel.

Last week Mr. Begin expressed his regret at the incidents and said he will prevent "a recurrence of such criminal acts." Bishop Sima'an said that the church leaders have been dissatisfied with the prime minister's response.

They have, he continued, sent telegrams to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and to the U.N. Human Rights Commission, currently in session in Geneva, calling for an internationally guaranteed statute for Jerusalem, to prevent further religious attacks.

They also have protested to foreign consuls in Jerusalem that the Israeli authorities are not tak-

ing adequate measures against anti-Christian Jewish violence, Bishop Sima'an added.

Elon Moreh group forced out

NABLUS, Feb. 8 (R) — A group of nationalist Israelis were forced today to leave a Nablus hotel, having moved there earlier this week to demonstrate their demand for renewed Jewish settlement in the Arab town.

The fourteen young men were told to leave their rented rooms on the orders of the Israeli military governor. They told reporters they would continue their struggle by camping on the main road leading to the town.

The men called themselves "refugees from Elon Moreh", the Jewish settlement on the occupied West Bank, removed last week after the Israeli high court accepted an appeal by Arab villagers for the return of the land on which it was built.



Anniversary of Alia's death marked today

Saturday, Feb. 9, marks the anniversary of the death of Queen Alia, who was killed in a helicopter crash three years ago.



Inhuman wrongs

ISRAEL has made a totally unsatisfactory rebuttal to the United Nations Human Rights Commission regarding the report of a special committee on human rights in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

The committee report pinpointed not only the well-documented cases of mistreatment of Arab detainees, and Arabs generally, by the Israeli military occupation authorities, but also such common Israeli practices as the expropriation of Arab property and assaults against the Arab and Islamic character of the occupied areas.

The Israeli representative's rebuttals are cynical, deliberately misleading and incomplete. He describes as "outrageous and preposterous" the committee's claim that Israel sought to be a single-religion state, at the very moment when there is more than enough evidence — from the desecration of non-Jewish religious sites to the entire policy of building Jewish settlements in east Jerusalem and the West Bank — of an official policy of Judaisation.

He describes as "distorted" the committee's findings on expropriation of Arab land, when in fact Israel's own supreme court and other legal institutions have overruled several such attempts at expropriation in the past few months alone.

The Israeli envoy accused the committee of having an "imperfect grasp of the administration of justice in the (occupied) territories." Yet, the cases of injustice there — starting, of course, with the occupation itself, which is a fundamental denial of the human, civil and national rights of the Palestinians — are legion. Even the U.S. State Department's annual world human rights report released this week used stronger than usual language on this matter, to wit: "Under the Israeli military regime that governs the occupied territories, the (human rights) record is not so good."

The U.S. report goes on to cite (without challenging them) "allegations of torture and brutality during interrogation of Arab security suspects," instances of mistreatment of detainees confirmed by Israeli newspapers and Israeli courts, and reports of "arbitrary arrests and detention in Jerusalem and in the West Bank following demonstrations and acts of terrorism."

Significantly, the U.S. report also points to the low level of Israeli investment in the economic infrastructure of the occupied territories, and other economic measures designed to keep the West Bank and Gaza as captive Israeli markets. It also refers to restrictions on the freedom of expression and assembly in the occupied territories.

Such findings in the U.S. report, which is meant to serve as the State Department's guide in appraising the credentials of would-be recipients of U.S. military and economic assistance, do not seem to prevent Israel as qualifying as America's primary aid client in the whole world.

Still, the message does seem to be getting through, drip by drip, year by year. The Israelis should know that their occupation policies are no longer accepted, not just by this or that faction of the U.N., but increasingly by the whole world community. Facts are facts and they cannot escape them. They can only change them. And that can only be done by ending the occupation altogether.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A sound way to save petrol

To the editor:

I noted with interest a fact brought up in an article (JT, Feb. 6) on energy conservation: 50 per cent of Jordan's oil consumption goes for transportation. Has the government considered how much an efficient telephone system reaching into every office and home in larger towns and cities would cut down on the need for transportation in urban areas?

How refreshing it would be to be able to confirm a reservation or to deal with a business or government office with ease over the telephone. As matters now stand, one often spends a steady half hour dialing the telephone, to be greeted only with a busy signal. One government department I know of, for example, employs 50 people and yet has only two lines. A friend of mine once tried to reach it for two weeks with no success and ended up writing a letter instead. He obviously had the time to wait (anyone who uses the postal system here de facto declares himself a martyr for patience) but most of us do not.

In frustration, we jump into cars to go to the office and conduct our business in person. Even if one is so lucky as to reach the desired person over the telephone, courtesy towards others trying to use the overloaded system does not permit calls of over a few minutes. So an appointment is made and one must make a trip anyway when the whole matter could be dealt with in ten minutes over the telephone. It would also be convenient, saving one transport and bother, if it were possible to call stores to ask them if they stock such-and-such, rather than having to make trips to five or more different stores only to find that none of such-and-such is available after all in Amman.

Finally it should be noted that telephones are an energy-saving way to keep in touch with one's friends. A telephone in every household would render obsolete the need for the Amman custom of dropping by at friends' homes just to see if they are in (one or the other party being certain not to have a telephone) and free for a ten minute chat.

With proper telephones, I'm sure we would all drive around less and enjoy the daily grind of urban life more. Let's hope that the increase in oil prices will convince the government that priority to telephone infrastructure is not only a way of building a modern society that attracts foreign business investments, but also an important way to save energy.

An adequate number of telephones is no luxury in a city as spread out and as difficult to traverse as Amman. It is a necessity.

Sincerely,
Margaret Thomas

Jabal Amman
Amman

Feb. 6, 1980

WHAT'S GOING ON

French Film

The French Cultural Centre presents a detective film by Jean Pierre Melville entitled "Un flic" starring Catherine Deneuve and Alain Delon. The film starts at 7:30 p.m.

TACET

(Continued from page 1)

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh (Chairman), Graduate of American University of Beirut in Business Administration; public accountant.

Founder of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh International. Member of the Board of Trustees, American University of Beirut. Previously Chairman of Price Waterhouse Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. Licensed Public Accountant since 1963.

Sponsor, Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Graduate School of Business Administration at the American University of Beirut. Author, Talal Abu-Ghazaleh English-Arabic Dictionary of Accountancy.

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Eugene R. Block B.A., University of Georgia.

Former Chairman and President of The World Bank (1949-62), and former Chairman and President of the International Finance Corporation (1960-62). Chairman of the Board, Scandinavian Securities Corporation and Blackwell Land Company, Inc. Consultant, International Telephone and Telegraph Company, Director, Warner Communications Inc. Member, The World Bank Pension Fund, Trustee, The Pierpont Morgan Library, Johns Hopkins University, American University in Cairo, Member of Kuwait Investment Advisory Committee (1963-68).

RT. Hon. Christopher Chataway P.C. M.A., Oxford University.

Managing Director, Orion Bank and Chairman of the Advisory Board, Honeywell U.K. Director, British Electric Traction Co., General Electric Company of New York Ltd., United Medical Enterprises, previously U.K. Minister of Posts and Telecommunications and Minister for Industrial Development.

Francois Giscard d'Estaing Licencié en Droit, Diplôme d'Etudes Supérieures d'Economie Politique, Diplôme de l'Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, Elève de l'Ecole Nationale d'Administration, Inspecteur Général des Finances.

Charge de Mission et Conseiller Technique de Différents Cabinets Ministériels. (1955-1969). Directeur de la Banque Centrale des Etats de l'Afrique Equatoriale et du Cameroun (Devenue Banque des Etats de l'Afrique Centrale). (1959-1961). Directeur de la Banque Française du Commerce Extérieur depuis 1970, puis Directeur Général puis Administrateur, et Président, Crisis de Guerre, Chevalier de l'Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur, Officier de l'Ordre National du Mérite.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: Syria has been very clear in defining the reasons behind its decision to withdraw units of its forces operating with the Arab peace-keeping forces from some positions in Lebanon. Without a doubt, also, has tried its best to move the Lebanese parties towards national reconciliation.

The Syrian leadership has taken this justified but difficult decision after being able to stop the suicidal struggle Lebanon was experiencing, while at the same time it watched the Israeli forces along the border and urged all Lebanese forces and factions to solidarity and unity for the sake of their country and nation.

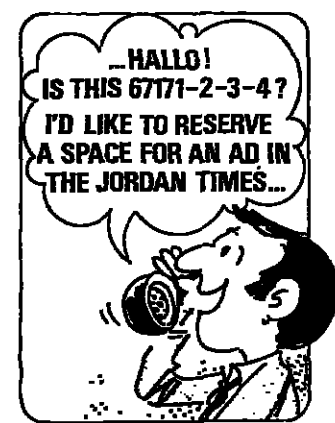
Syria is keen on Lebanon being able to fill the vacuum and confront the situation that may result from its decision. Thus the Lebanese leadership receives a dangerous burden, which it should have borne a long time ago.

We all have to realise that encountering all that may occur in Lebanon after the withdrawal decision is carried out (which decision was first prompted on Thursday by the Israeli prime minister's statement of intention to interfere in Lebanon under the guise of "protecting Christianity") and dealing with potential clashes in a number of areas is a comprehensive Arab responsibility, which should be promptly undertaken before it is too late. It is true the latest Arab summit in Tunis tried to deal with the Lebanese situation before letting it deteriorate to the extent it has, but it is also true that the dangerous events taking place now in Lebanon are about to involve the region in a whirlpool of uncertainty — and nobody can visualise to what conclusion this may lead.

AL DUSTOUR: The Jordanian citizen's acceptance of the new increase in the prices of petroleum products should not soften the new government's unstinting efforts in the search for oil in the Kingdom, and the development of alternative energy sources — such as oil shale, which exists in huge quantities in more than one area, in addition to the utilisation of solar energy and concentration on research into means of exploiting it.

While awaiting the desired response from our brethren in oil-producing countries to Jordan's call to help it bear the continual increase in fuel oil prices, the adjustment of domestic prices in the wake of the rise in international ones remains a temporary, if not a risky, solution to the problem. Our need for petroleum products, even if moderated by guidance in consumption, will continue to grow due to the natural expansion in industry, agriculture, construction and the size of the population.

Therefore, we shall remain the slaves of continual increases in imported oil prices unless we take the necessary measures from now on to achieve some degree of self-sufficiency in our oil needs through the development of domestic energy resources by all possible means.



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This invitation is open to all qualified drilling firms. Tender and contract documents are available against JD 2 (non-refundable) per copy at AWSA Building, Jabal Al Hussein, Amman, Tel. 66111.

The bid opening will be at 12:00 noon, March 13, 1980, at AWSA Building. A pre-bid conference will be held at 9:00 a.m. March 5, 1980 to be followed by a field trip to the Azraq area.

Offers are to be submitted in two separate envelopes. The first one shall include the pre-qualification data for such work, the second envelope shall include the prices.

General Manager
Eng. Tahsin Sabbagh

tells est Damas-Scene

led for the Jordan Times by Pat McDonnell

(Week of Feb. 9 - 15)

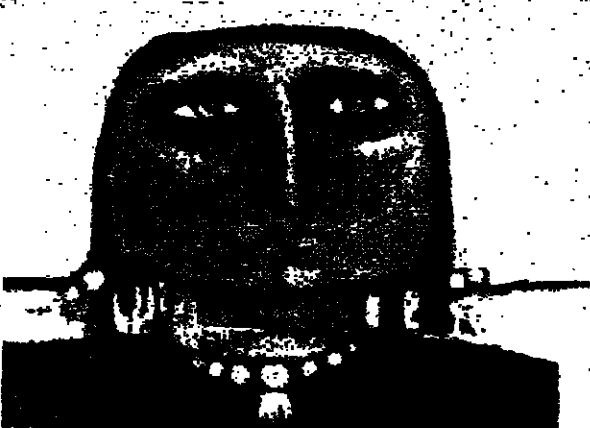
EXHIBITS

Feb. 11: "Books from the German Democratic Republic" entitles a display of publications in the arts and sciences to be on view through Feb. 26 in the GDR Cultural Centre.

Feb. 12: A one-man show featuring 10 etchings and paintings and mixed media works by Ziad Dallout opens for in Al Sha'b Gallery. A 6 p.m. reception will open the which is the fourth individual show by the artist. He was Suweida in 1953 and is a graduate of the Fine Arts of Damascus University. Hours: 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.; 4-6 p.m. except Friday.



ews



ly Town" entitles this oil painting by Walid Al Shami, one s featured in a one-man show at Al Sha'b Gallery.

otographs of France" entitles an exhibit depicting life- France. The exhibit continues through Feb. 27 in the city.

SDAY, Feb. 13: "Toward Computer Art" entitles an 12 computer experts which will open for eight days in he Institute. A 6:30 p.m. reception will open the travel- of experimental computer designs. The unusual exhibit works in the following divisions: typewriter graphics, mmes, digital computer graphics, photomechanical tations, computer architecture and transformations of -generated basic patterns. The catalogue explains that art involves a programme which instructs the computer eological catenations. From this, the machine assumes the understand the formal and quantitative structure of the esthetic creation - a graphic design.

DAY, Feb. 14: An exhibition of colour photos and docu- out the French satellite Ariane goes on view in the Blue the French Cultural Centre.

JUNG: An exhibit of 20 etchings and 18 oil paintings by l Shami continues at Al Sha'b gallery through Monday.

emy-five pictorial essays by Italian artist Paolo Aceto are through Wednesday in the Spanish Cultural Centre. The travelling through the Middle East on a motorbike in ion for a book to be published in Rome. His experiences

on the trip are reflected in his acrylic paintings. Hours: 4 - 8 p.m. daily except Friday.

* * * The second privately owned art gallery in Damascus has opened under the name of Ebla Gallery, and 36 etchings and oil paintings by the owner, Mamduh Khashlan are on view. The new gallery is one block west of the Italian Hospital. Hours: 5 to 8 p.m. daily.

CONCERTS

TUESDAY, Feb. 12: A programme of Bach, Mozart, Vivaldi, Couperin, Rameau and Scarlatti will be performed at 8:30 p.m. by Mme. Michele Delfosse in the Kassoun Room of the Meridien Hotel. The concert is the first in a series of musical galas which the hotel intends to present during 1980. A specialist on the clavichord, (a medieval forerunner of the piano), the artist researched old musical instruments at the National Conservatory of Music in Paris. She graduated from that institution with a first prize. Her trip is sponsored by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Reservations for the concert are limited to 120 persons. The event will open with aperitifs in the rooftop bar. Following the 8:30 p.m. concert, a gourmet dinner will be served in the rooftop restaurant.

THURSDAY, Feb. 14: "Russian Romance" entitles a concert to be performed at 7 p.m. by Valery Sagaidachnyi, pianist, and Edward Betrovsky, violinist, in the Soviet Cultural Centre.

SATURDAY, Feb. 16: The Quartet Parrot will perform at 8:30 p.m. in Al Kabbani Hall. See next week's column for programme information. Tickets may be obtained from the Damascus Conservatory of Music, approximately 100 metres west of the French Embassy.

LECTURES

MONDAY, Feb. 11: "The Cities and Towns of Lenin" entitles a talk to be illustrated with colour slides at 6 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

TUESDAY, Feb. 12: In response to popular demand, a programme offered in January by the French Cultural Centre will be repeated at 7:30 p.m. The title of the showing of colour slides is entitled "La Grande Lessive" (in French).

* * * In preparation for the Olympic Games, the German Democratic Cultural Centre will present a 7 p.m. forum with Mr. Horst Sockoll, chief coach in the Syrian Soccer Federation (in Arabic). A documentary, entitled "Festival of Sports", also will be shown.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 13: "La Reinsertion Sociale des Handicapes" entitles a talk to be given at 6 p.m. by Dr. J.P. Salbreux in the French Cultural Centre. Dr. Salbreux is director of *Comite d'action en faveur des deficients mentaux* in Paris. The talk will be in French with Arabic translation.

* * * The Cine-Club is kicking off a series of spring lectures with a discussion of Syrian TV series by film director Haytham Hakki at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse (in Arabic).

* * * Syrian short story writer Mohammad Khalid Ramadan will read selections from his works at 6 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

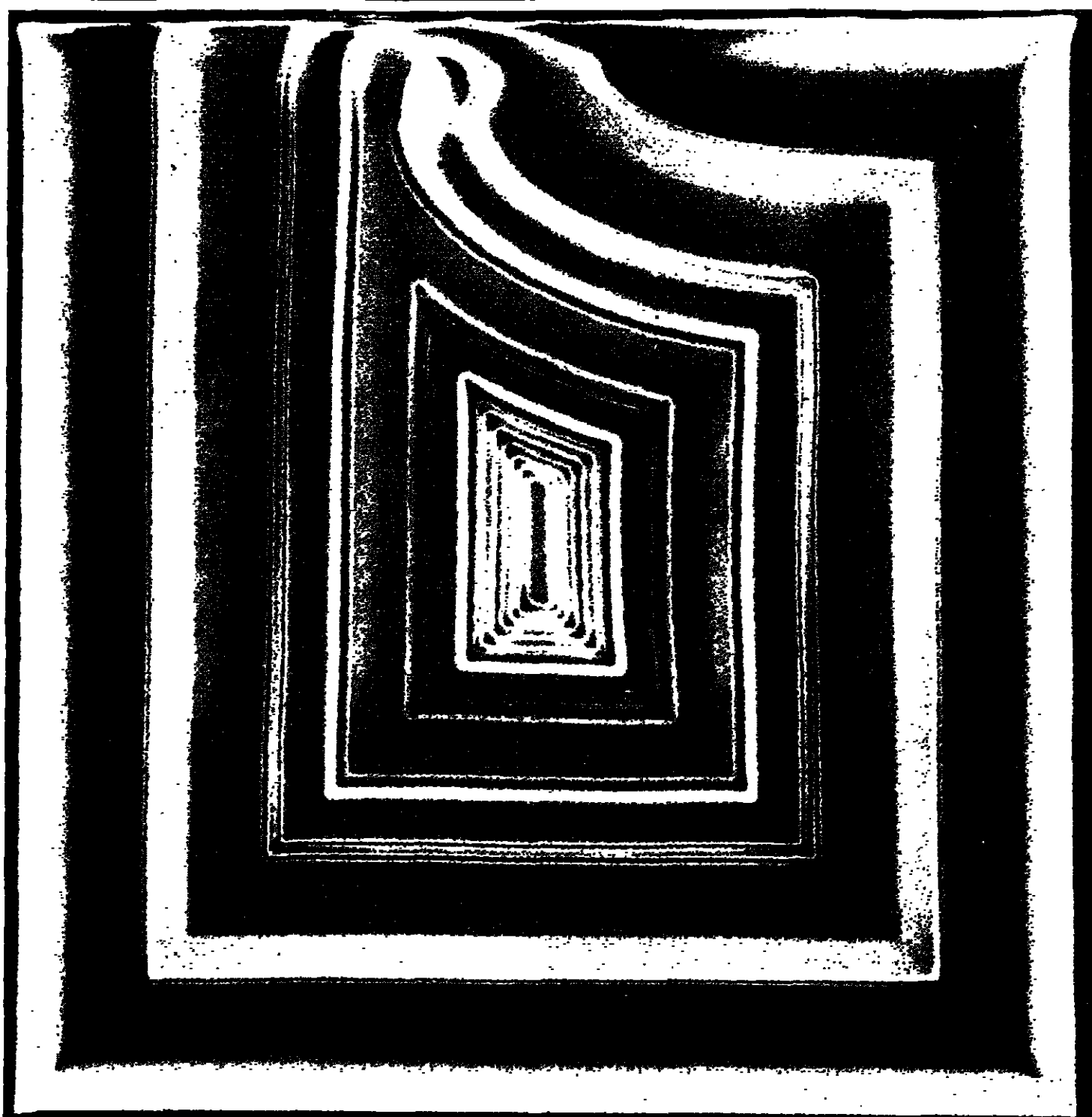
THEATRE

NIGHTLY: A Syrian version of Peter Schaeffer's "Black Comedy" is performed at 8:30 p.m. in Al Hamra Theatre. Sara Dibsi and Hilda Samur star in the production, directed by Mahmoud Khaddour (in Arabic).

* * * Upon popular demand, Duraid Lahham is starring in a return engagement of "Cheers, My Country," nightly at 8:30 p.m. in the Federated Workers' Theatre, opposite the Meridien Hotel (in Arabic).

VIDEO-TAPED PROGRAMMES

TUESDAY, Feb. 12: "La Tuile a Loups, Part II: Le petit gar-



A chemigramme by Pierre Cordier to go on view Wednesday at the Goethe Institute. Transformation of a basic motif was worked out

age," entitles the second in a series of programmes on the life of country people. At 6 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre (in French).

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 13: "L' Histoire de l'Automobile: Le match Renault-Citroen" entitles a 6 p.m. programme in the French Cultural Centre (in French).

FRIDAY, Feb. 15: A musical show, entitled "Champ Visuel: Iannis Xenakis", will be shown at 6 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre.

FILMS

SATURDAY, Feb. 9: "Deutschstunde," Part II, a 1971 film directed by Peter Beauvais after the novel by Siegfried Lenz will be shown at 8 p.m. in the Goethe Institute. It stars Wolfgang Buettner, Arno Assmann and Edda Seippel (in German, with Arabic sub-titles).

SATURDAY, Feb. 9, and MONDAY, Feb. 11: "Rak," a 1972 film directed by Charles Belmont will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre. The colour version stars Lila Kedrova, Sami Frey, Anne Deluse and Maurice Gabriel (in French, with Arabic sub-titles).

SUNDAY, Feb. 10: "Trini," a film about a Mexican teenager who joins the revolution of Zapata, will be shown at 6:30 p.m. in the German Cultural Centre (in German, with Arabic sub-titles).

with the aid of chemicals in a step-by-step enlargement and transposition.

* * * "Kafr Qasem" will be shown in the Cine-Club at 7 p.m. (in Arabic).

MONDAY, Feb. 11 through WEDNESDAY, Feb. 13: The children's classic, "The Railway Children," will be shown at 7:30 p.m. each evening in the British Cultural Centre.

MONDAY, Feb. 11: A feature film entitled "Lenin in the Village of Moscow" will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, with Arabic and English sub-titles).

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 13: "The Devil" entitles a feature film to be shown at 7 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, with Arabic and English sub-titles).

THURSDAY, Feb. 14: "Classe Tous Risques" entitles a 1960 film directed by Claude Sautet which will be shown at 8:30 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre. The black-and-white film stars Jean-Paul Belmondo, Sandra Milo, Lina Ventura and Marcel Dalio (in French, with Arabic sub-titles).

FRIDAY, Feb. 15: "Race Without Ending" entitles a feature film to be shown in the Soviet Cultural Centre at 7 p.m. (in Russian, with Arabic and English sub-titles).

If you have items for the Damas-Scene column, please phone them in Damascus to Pat McDonnell at 336-658 or mail them 10 days in advance to P.O. Box 5601, Damascus.

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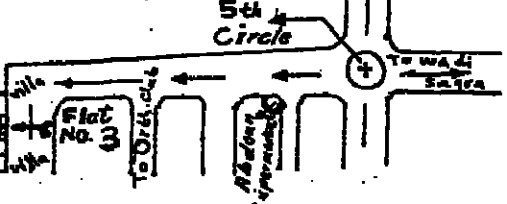
TODAY'S WEATHER

It will be increasingly cloudy with a chance of scattered rain, possibly accompanied by thunder. A decrease in temperature will occur, and winds will be south-westerly moderate to fresh. In Aquaba, it will be partly cloudy with a chance of scattered rain. Winds will be northerly moderate and seas rough.

	Overnight	Daytime
low	5	12
high	10	18
Deserts	5	15
Jordan Valley	11	18

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. David Phillips is conducting study on private secondary education leading to GCE O Level, on the patterns offered at primary level by the International Community School.

He will be pleased to see anyone interested in this question and will be available on Monday, Feb. 11, from 9 - 11 a.m. at the British Council, by kind permission of the representative.

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ISBN 0 582 78315 1 62 pages maps

To be published in March by Longman Group Limited in association with The Publishing Committee, Amman, Jordan

Longman



Muhammad Ali:

Champion boxer, unorthodox diplomat

NEW YORK, Feb. 8 (AP) -- Muhammad Ali, diplomat, boxing ambassador, Uncle Sam's prescription for winning the Third World.

Laughable, you say. How can a high school dropout whose career has been limited to the confines of a boxing ring and who could not pass an elementary army intelligence examination invade the subtle and devious councils of high diplomacy?

Well, he has. He has got his nose bloodied worse than in any of his 50 professional fights. He has been shunned by some dignitaries, battered by a cynical press and scoffed at by friends and foes alike.

But he's still in there punching.

President Jimmy Carter and the U.S. State Department are being boxed for even considering such a ludicrous idea. Moscow's press gleefully reported Ali's problems in trying to lure African nations into the American orbit on the proposed pullout of the Moscow Olympics. Some say his informal tour is holding the

United States up to ridicule. Bosh. The whole thing is terrific.

Okay, so Ali doesn't have a university degree in statesmanship. He is not versed in the intricacies of international politics. He is not equipped for the hypocritical wheeling and dealing that goes on behind the closed doors in lofty chambers.

He's just Ali, a charmer who has a feel for basic corn-pone philosophy, a sort of a modern piper with a magnetism for the plain, ordinary people of the world.

This pockish, garrulous ex-pugilist cannot possibly do more damage to U.S. foreign policy than some of America's own slick talkers in pin-striped suits have done in the past.

Ali has a natural appeal to the underprivileged and the oppressed. Yet in his capacity as a three-time winner of the world heavyweight championship -- perhaps the world's most recognizable personality he has been able to hobnob with princes and potentates. He can stop traffic on main

thoroughfares in the world -- whether it be in Moscow or Madagascar. He is lionized by blacks and Muslims. What was wrong with selecting him for this sensitive assignment?

They say the President is fidgeting. The State Department is getting heartburn. Whose idea was it? Washington buckpassers are passing the buck.

Ali remains undaunted. This is the black man who 13 years ago defied the government and refused army induction for the unpopular Vietnam war, protesting: "I am 50 per cent preacher, 10 per cent fighter."

He was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court. Labeled a slacker and stripped of his title, he hung on and the country ultimately came around to his side. Ali regained his crown twice after that.

The world was his oyster. He kidded Mobutu in Zaire. He danced with President Marcos' wife in the Philippines. He carried his own WORLD (World Organisation for Rights, Lib-

erty and Dignity) to the United Nations. His zeal has been inexhaustible.

He never pretended to be a statesman. He is just himself -- the best in the world with his fists, changeable as a chameleon at times, bombastic, reflective but always earthy.

In the 1960s, when blacks were striving to move into white neighbourhoods, he said, "I don't want to live next door to anybody who don't want to live next door to me." So he built a mansion in the Pennsylvania hills.

Speaking of high finance, he said, "Nobody can claim money. It belongs to God. It's just lent us to do good with it."

He's so fresh and basic it's disarming. He is naive -- at times a wide-eyed little boy, the next moment sharp as edged steel. He is an actor, always on stage. Thus his inconsistencies.

His fault, if any, is saying what people want to hear. He can be hypnotic with his charm. Education or no, he is a diplomat supreme.



Algerians to go to Moscow

ALGIERS, Feb. 8 (R) -- Algeria said today it will take part in the Moscow Olympics. Algerian Olympic Committee chairman Mohammad Zerguini announced this on his departure for Lake Placid, the Algerian News Agency reported. He will attend a meeting of the International Olympic Committee there to discuss calls for a boycott of the summer Olympics after the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. Algeria voted last month for the resolution at the Islamic foreign ministers' conference in Islamabad which condemned the "Soviet aggression." But it expressed reserves about the part of the text urging member states to consider a games boycott.

Australia, New Zealand win in tennis

HOBART, Tasmania, Feb. 8 (R) -- Australia and New Zealand quickly took control of their Davis Cup eastern zone tennis semi-finals here and in Auckland today. Australia led Japan 1-0 with the second singles suspended because of rain while New Zealand went 2-0 up against South Korea. Chris Lewis and Onny Parun winning the opening singles. Mark Edmondson, former Australian open champion, gave Australia their lead by beating Japanese number one Tsuyoshi Fukui 6-2, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 in a match twice interrupted by rain. The second singles between Peter McNamara of Australia and Japan's Shigeyuki Nishio lasted only a few minutes, the score standing at 1-1 and 30-all in the third game when the weather intervened. Lewis beat young Dae Jeon

6-2, 6-4, 6-0 to put New Zealand ahead against South Korea and then Parun, with more difficulty than he must have expected, defeated Chun Ho Kim 7-5, 3-6, 6-2, 10-8.

Nigeria to attend Moscow Games

ABIDJAN, Feb. 8 (R) -- Nigeria will participate in athletics, boxing, swimming and basketball at the Moscow Olympics, radio Lagos reported today. The report came at the end of a visit by former boxing champion Muhammad Ali, who flew to Lagos as President Carter's special envoy to urge the Nigerians to boycott the games. The radio quoted the secretary of the Olympic organising committee in Nigeria, Mr. S.O. Lawal, as saying his committee had listed boxing, swimming, basketball and athletics for the games. He said the boxers to present Nigeria had already been picked.

Bowling tourney venue changed

BANGKOK, Feb. 8 (R) -- A world amateur bowling championship originally scheduled as a pre-Olympic exhibition in Moscow next May has been moved to Vienna, it was announced today. The vice president of the International Bowling Federation (IBF), Soetopo Janato, said the switch was in line with calls from the United States and Britain to boycott the Moscow Olympics, and seek substitute sites. The pre-Olympic tournament will send the champion man and woman from each of the three IBF zones -- America, Europe and Asia -- into final competition for the world titles.

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FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, FEB. 9, 1980

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

IES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handle responsibilities so are quickly behind you. Please a loved one by a pitiful act. Be more logical in your thinking.

URUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Combine your efforts a New Age person and get a new project working successfully. A strange situation could occur that could be to benefit.

MINI (May 21 to June 21) Use your ingenuity in the line of any work that faces you and you can be successful with it. Co-workers appreciate your ability.

ION CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Study talents and know how best to commercialize on them. Keep and get fine results. Enjoy company of loved ones.

O (July 22 to Aug. 21) Study home conditions and live to your liking and have more happiness there in future. Entertain there and get good results.

RGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) A more advanced attitude and community work will yield better results than in the past. Talks with allies help cement better relations.

3RA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Put new ideas to work that help to make you more affluent, get your responsibilities better handled. Make needed home repairs.

ORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get your plans across for small advancement. Contact individuals who can help you with your creative ideas.

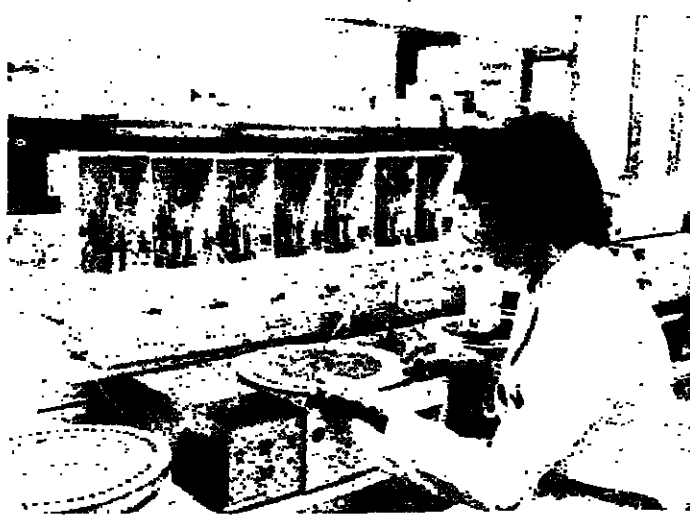
GITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Go over your ideas and how to get them working successfully. Others think you an eccentric, but pay no attention.

PRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Listen to those ideas that a clever friend gives you instead of running away from them. Think along more constructive lines.

UARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are able to advance by showing your talents to the public and gaining support for them. Take time to investigate whatever interests you.

SCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get out of the rut you are in and take advantage of fine opportunities to advance. Your intuitive faculties and they help you.

Foolproof drug machine



Apothecaries in West Germany have decided to set up a central laboratory in which drugs and chemical substances can be tested for pharmaceutical qualities. The highly sensitive analysis machine shown in the picture can detect even minuscule amounts of dangerous substances. These tests guarantee that the consumer will be buying only perfect substances from the chemists. (DaD photo)

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GLUNE

RARB

LIKLER

WALLOF



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: THEIR OF (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BELLE CHICK SNUGLY BOTTLE
Answer: What one hears when lovers find no need to talk—"SIGH-LENCE"

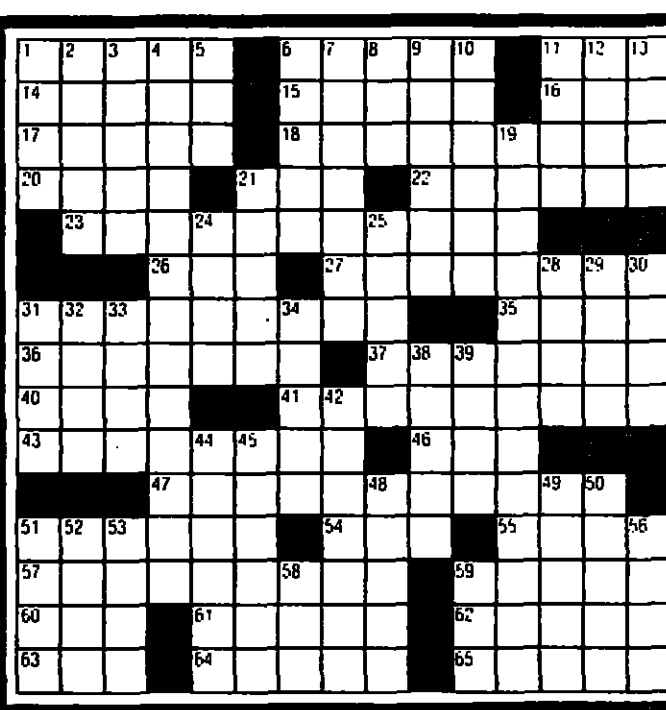
THE Daily Crossword

by A. J. Santora

ACROSS	27	Begin	59	"Tiny Alice"	25	Stone marker
1 Prepared	31	Rub out		playwright	28	Work animals
6 Type of tire	35	Corn lily	60	Be distressed	29	Timber trees
11 "... world in — hands"	36	Fratred	61	Year, in Paris	30	Quick
14 Verve	40	Bengal fighters	62	Roman writer	31	Work units
15 Accustom	41	Shorted breath	63	— out (deleted)	32	Existen
16 Biblical king	43	Facing	64	Claims on property	33	Lhasa (snow dog)
17 Anklebone	46	In a care-less way	65	"— Hope" (soaper)	34	Grownup
18 Peeling off	47	Command to a horse			38	Ottoman officials
20 Feeble try	47	Abusing			39	Ending for argo or astro
21 Gull	51	Red light, for one			42	Fever-producing agent
22 City-state of old Greece	54	Letters				
23 OPEC representative	55	— Lang Syne				
26 Nighttime, in poems	57	Certain punishments				

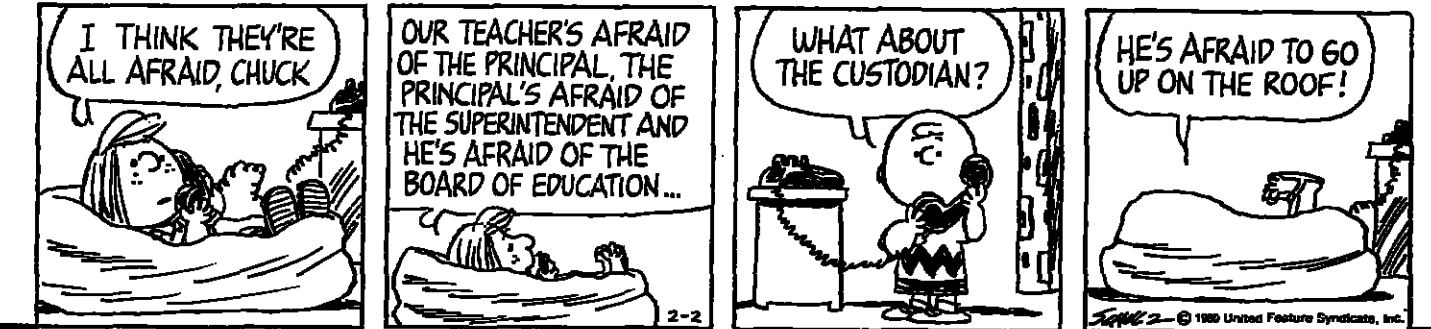
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. PATH 2. STEEL 3. ISON 4. ALLIA 5. YABLE 6. CURE 7. LONGARM 8. OF THE LAW 9. SIA 10. GREIN 11. TUMULT 12. SIVIT 13. VERA 14. DIAS 15. OPENS 16. WOMEN 17. DIA 18. BING 19. CHIT 20. COIL 21. END 22. ROVER 23. GORSE 24. RESTORED 25. LEWIS 26. COURSE 27. BENT 28. SOUTHERN 29. DISSEASE 30. PLAIN 31. CLOTHES 32. MAN 33. TIME 34. TASTE 35. TYRO 36. SOBS 37. SIEFER 38. SLAM

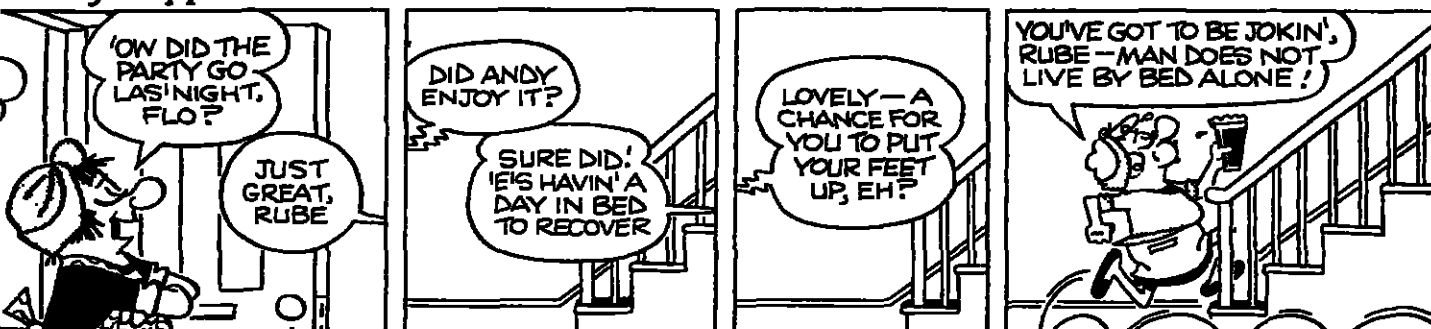


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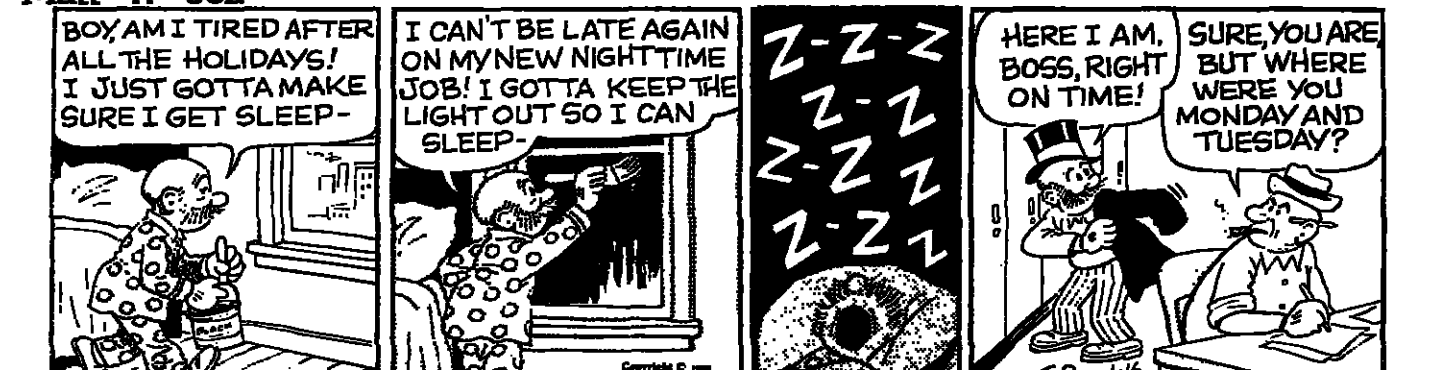
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Flinstones



THE BETTER HALF

By Vinson



"It's odd how my clothes always shrink lengthwise and yours shrink widthwise."

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on	14:30 Jordan Weekly
7:01 Morning Show	15:00 Cinema Libre
7:30 News Bulletin	16:00 News Summary
7:40 Morning Show	16:30 East Jerusalem
7:50 News Summary	17:00 1980 Festivities
8:00 News Summary	17:30 International Top Twenty
8:30 Sign off	18:00 News Summary
11:00 Sign off	18:05 First Spin
12:00 News Headlines	19:00 News Bulletin
12:15 Radiotheatre	19:10 Music
13:00 News Summary	19:30 Sign off
13:05 Radiotheatre	
14:00 News Bulletin	
14:10 Music	

BBC RADIO

GMT	13:00 News: Commentary
04:00 Newsdesk	13:15 Come Here
04:30 Come Here	13:30 Network U.K.
04:45 Financial News: Reflections	13:45 The House at Poon Corner
05:00 News: Press Reviews	14:00 Doha Ferry
05:15 About Britain	14:30 Anything Goes
05:30 The King of Instruments	15:00 Radio Newsworld
06:45 The World Today	15:15 Saturday Special
06:00 Newsdesk	16:00 News: Commentary
06:30 Command Performance	16:15 Saturday Special
07:00 News: News about Britain	17:00 News Summary: Saturday Special
07:15 From the Weeklies	17:15 Sports Round-up
07:30 Music from Scotland	17:30 News: News about Britain
07:45 Network U.K.	18:15 Radio Newsworld
08:00 News: Reflections	18:30 Play of the Week
08:30 News: Press Reviews	19:30 Command Performance
09:15 World Today	20:00 News: Commentary
09:30 Financial News: Look Ahead	20:15 People and Politics
09:45 Science in Action	20:30 Short Story
10:15 About Britain	20:45 Land and People
10:30 Matthew on Music	21:15 Off the Record
11:00 News: News about Britain	21:45 Our Own Correspondent
11:15 New Ideas: The Week in Wales	22:00 News: Theatre Call
11:30 The Energy Equation	22:30 New Ideas: Reflections
12:00 Radio Newsworld	22:45 Sports Round-up
12:15 Jazz for the Asking	23:00 News: Commentary
12:45 Sports Round-up	

CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

American Centre	41521
British Council	3417-38
French Cultural Centre	37184
German Cultural Centre	41983
Greek Institute	4433
Soviet Cultural Centre	24189
Spanish Cultural Centre	62195
Haya Arts Centre	67181
Hassan Youth Ctr.	41785
Y.W.C.A.	6251
Y.W.M.C.A.	36111
Amman Municipal Library	65111
University of Jordan Library	36191
Clack Museum	36191
Folklore Museum	36191

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)

Ambulance (government)	75111
Civil defence force	2414-4
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	26381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	37111-4
Police headquarters	30141
Najlat (emergency rescue: police/English spoken) 24 hours a day, for emergency	21111, 37771
Airport information (ALIA)	85336
Jordan Television	23111
Radio, English Section	74124
First aid, fire, police	119
Fire headquarters	22940

CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)

Al Hamra Theatre	226-448
Al Sha'b Art Gallery	226-527
American Centre	226-386
Arab Cultural Centre	226-227
Bulgarian Cultural Centre	227-901
British Cultural Centre	226-542
Democratic Republic Cultural Centre	226-542
French Cultural Centre	226-542
Kabuki Theatre	226-406
National Museum	226-542
Soviet Cultural Centre	226-542
Spanish Cultural Centre	226-542
Umm al-Qay	226-542
Zahara Public Library	226-542
West German Cultural Institute	226-542

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

Ambulance (government)	118-339
Electric Power Co. (emergency)	226-386
Fire headquarters	95
Information	95 97
Municipal water service	118-339

OUT & ABOUT

CHINESE RESTAURANT

and best Chinese restaurant in Jordan. Circle, Jabal Amman, the Ahliyah School or Tel. 38968. Daily from noon to 3:30 and 6:30 — 11:30 mid-Also take home order by phone.

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GOT SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND? LET THE JORDAN TIMES HEAR ABOUT IT. WRITE TO: P.O. BOX 6710

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS	DEPARTURES
6:45 Kuwait	6:40 Damascus, Munich, Frankfurt (LH)
8:00 Kuwait, Doha (RJGF)	7:30 Beirut
8:15 Athens	7:30 Beirut (MEA)
9:00 Tehran	8:45 Beirut (AZ)
10:00 Karachi, Dubai (RJGF)	9:15 Rome
10:00 Beirut	11:00 Baghdad
11:05 Riyadh, Dhahran (SDI)	11:30 Geneva, Brussels
12:05 Kuwait (KAC)	12:00 Victoria, London
13:50 Cairo (EA)	12:05 Dhahran, Riyadh (SDI)
17:30 Pers. Beirut (AF)	12:30 Cairo
18:15 Cairo	13:00 Cairo
18:30 Benghazi	14:00 Kuwait (KAC)
19:05 Frankfurt	14:25 Cairo (EA)
19:45 Beirut (MEA)	19:50 Cairo
19:50 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)	21:00 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJGF)
20:10 Copenhagen, Athens	21:30 Cairo
20:50 Cairo (EA)	21:45 Cairo (EA)
21:45 London (BA)	22:30 Jeddah
22:50 Cairo (EA)	22:40 Rasdipah (BA)
01:45 Cairo	23:45 Cairo (EA)
02:45 Cairo	

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3	CHANNEL 6
5:30 Koran	6:30 French programme
5:45 Cartoons (Kun Kuni)	7:00 News in French
6:10 Space Adventure	7:25 News in Hebrew
6:35 Children's programme	7:45 Seventh Sense
7:00 Arabic programme	8:30 Comedy
7:10 Return in Persian Place	9:10 The next step forward
8:00 News in Arabic	10:00 News in English
8:30 Arabic series	10:15 Dalia
9:30 Arabic programme	11:05 News in Arabic
10:15 Dalia	11:15 Blues
11:05 News in Arabic	
11:15 Blues	

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT	18:30 New York, New York
05:30 The Jordan show: news on the hour and 28 min after each hour	19:00 News and This Week
17:00 Weekend	19:30 Press Conference USA
18:00 Special English: news words and their stories, feature, short stories	20:00 Special English: news words and their stories
	20:15 Music USA (jazz)
	21:00 Weekend

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:	Omar (42737)
Amman:	Al Razi (7772)
Samir Zaidon (7114) Ext. 347	Irbid:
Younis 1-5 (3774) 62637	Shadi
Irbid:	Zarga:
Bahram Al Rahabi (2796)	Al Shila
Zarga:	Talib
Fatih Abu 'Iyah (43608/4292)	Talib (44660)
Pharmacies:	Al Naji (44433)
Amman:	Taqi (23024)
Abu Ghazal (25290)	Shamsan (65294)
Al Khat (30210)	

Thousands of Cubans seeking asylum Peru seeks aid in solving Havana embassy trouble

LIMA, Peru, April 8 (Agencies) -- The Peruvian government turned to its Latin-American allies in the Andean Pact for help in finding asylum for the estimated 10,000 Cubans jamming its embassy in Havana.

The United States said it would take some of them if the Peruvian government would let the refugees come to Lima. But so far the Peruvians were admitting none because they had no definite assurances that other countries would take them.

"Peru cannot take charge of 10,000 refugees, no country can do that individually," Foreign Minister Arturo Garcia said.

Mr. Garcia, and the foreign ministers of the other four Andean Pact nations -- Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela -- scheduled an emergency meeting in the Peruvian capital tomorrow to review the situation and discuss what might be done.

Havana Radio described the throng that descended on the Peruvian embassy last weekend as "vagrants and bums" and said they were welcome to leave the country.

"If the government of Peru wishes to receive in their country all the anti-socials and bums, we will be glad to authorize them to leave our country and also those who are ideologically in disagreement with the revolution and socialism," said the broadcast.

The U.S. State Department said it would consider applications for admission to the United States from those Cubans who could reach the Peruvian capital.

Peru's foreign minister said the five members of the embassy staff were not able to cope with the crowd jamming the suburban estate and asked the International Red Cross to provide food.

The crowd poured into the eight hectare embassy compound after the Cuban police guard was withdrawn because a policeman was killed when six Cubans seeking asylum crashed a bus into the

compound gate. Eighteen other Cubans had been inside the embassy since Jan. 1 trying to leave the country, and 16 Cubans have been at the Venezuelan embassy for months.

Cuban President Fidel Castro's government restored the police guard yesterday, sealing off the surrounding six blocks. Radio Havana said the government would provide medicine and sanitation facilities and was trying to reduce the size of the crowd.

The Cuban youth newspaper Juventud Rebelde said the government had told 2,470 people they could return to their homes and apply for exit visas. Havana Radio said 1,730 had been given passes to go home and return to the embassy later.

Most of the refugees have rejected the offer because they are afraid the police would prevent them from returning to the embassy. They have endured appalling conditions, with little food, virtually no sanitation and the risk of disease.

The procedure for obtaining a safe-conduct pass is simple, the most difficult part for most is to push their way through the multitude to one of the unlocked gates. Once outside, the Cuban hands over his or her identity card and is given a pass.

Peruvian officials insisted there were 10,000 people in the compound. One foreign diplomat in Havana put the number at 7,000 and the Cuban government newspaper Granma said there were 3,000.

In its front-page editorial yesterday, Granma blamed Peru for the situation, which it said was the "bitter fruits of a policy of protecting common delinquents."

This was a clear reference to

Peru's decision to grant political asylum to Cubans who had earlier crashed vehicles through the police guard around the embassy.

In Miami, thousands of Cuban-Americans marched in support of their compatriots. Leaders called for a revolution to overthrow President Castro and led chants of "war, war."

A local Spanish radio station organized a drive to collect food to send to the would-be emigrants. Exile leaders said more than \$80,000 along with enough food and medicine to fill at least six planes had been collected.

Miami City Commissioner and exile leader Armando Lacasa said the numbers crowding into the Peruvian embassy was proof that conditions in Cuba were still bad after 21 years of government by President Castro, adding "Castro will soon be out."

Florida Senator Richard Stone said he had arranged for Cuban exile leaders to meet State Department officials in Washington.

President Castro has told the Cubans they can leave as soon as another country grants them entry visas.

El Salvador junta orders strict enforcement of gun control laws

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, April 8 (AP) -- The civilian-military junta has ordered strict enforcement of existing gun control laws to take weapons out of the hands of unauthorized civilians, a government source said. The sources, who asked not to be identified, said convicted offenders will be jailed for up to one year.

Leftists, who want to establish a Marxist government here and who are fighting the junta, and rightists, fighting both the left and the government, are armed to the teeth.

The right is clandestine and authorities usually only see their bullets, but leftists frequently sport automatic rifles and myriads of pistols during their protest marches.

"We hope to be able to control the number of guns being carried by persons who have not registered them," said the source.

There was no estimate of how many persons carry illegal weapons, but in political violence since Jan. 1, an estimated 1,000 persons have been killed.

In an unrelated matter, Mrs. Daphne Dunn, the cancer-stricken wife of kidnapped South African Ambassador Archibald Gardner Dunn, wrote a letter, published in a newspaper here, asking the captors, the Popular Liberation Forces, to establish contact with the family. Mrs. Dunn, being treated in Los Angeles for terminal cancer, implored the guerrillas to free her husband, abducted Nov. 29.

The guerrillas first demanded publication of a political manifesto in 65 languages and 102 countries, but have since shifted their demands to a \$20 million ransom to help support their drive to topple the government.

WHO raps cigarette habit

UNITED NATIONS, April 8 (R) -- A weekend marijuana smoker risks his health less than someone who smokes 25 cigarettes a day, says a World Health Organisation (WHO) expert.

Dr. Daniel Horn, a member of the U.N. agency's expert committee on smoking control, also says cigarette smoking aggravates every existing health problem as well as harming the healthy person.

He spoke at a news conference yesterday to mark World Health Day, the theme for which this year is "Smoking or health: the choice is yours."

Asked about marijuana smoking, Dr. Horn said this was not part of the problem WHO was

Chad factions doubt long-term peace as ceasefire takes effect

N'DJAMENA, April 8 (R) -- A truce in Chad's civil war takes effect at 1100 GMT today, but both warring factions express serious doubts that it will bring lasting peace.

The ceasefire was signed on Sunday by President Goukouni Oueddei and his rival, Defence Minister Hissene Habre, after Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema mediated between them for two days.

But President Goukouni has told reporters, "I am very pessimistic about the outcome. I do not believe it will come to anything because I know the other side."

Mr. Habre said from the area of N'Djamena under his control that he would respect the ceasefire if the president's side did too. "But I know the other side, and I don't think they will honour the truce," he added.

At least 800 people have been killed and some 2,000 wounded in a 16-day battle for power in N'Djamena. More than 70,000 people have fled the capital to the safety of neighbouring Cameroon, and so far have shown no signs of returning to Chad.

The ceasefire, the fifth negotiated since the cur-

rent fighting began, will be supervised by two senior officers from each of four countries, Cameroon, Nigeria, Liberia and Togo. They will be joined by an Organisation of African Unity (OAU) peacekeeping force. But Togolese President Eyadema, who returned home yesterday, said he did not know when the OAU forces would arrive.

Chad has suffered sporadic civil war since gaining independence from France in 1960.

In this latest battle for power, little progress has been made by either side, according to military sources. "They win ten metres here, lose ten metres there -- and that's about it for the day," as one of them put it.

Meanwhile, the secretary-general of the OAU, Mr. Edem Kodjo, left the Liberian capital today for N'Djamena to try to bring peace to the country. A spokesman at the Liberian Foreign Affairs Ministry said. The spokesman said Mr. Kodjo would confer with President Goukouni and other warring factions.

Mr. Kodjo has been in Monrovia for five days conferring with President William Tolbert, current chairman of the OAU.

Greece to hold talks with U.S. envoys

ATHENS, April 8 (R) -- A four-man United States Senate delegation opens talks with Greek Government leaders here tomorrow on U.S. - Greek relations.

Along with Senator Baker (Republican, Tennessee), are Senators Joseph Biden (Democrat, Delaware) Senator Edward Zorinsky (Democrat, Nebraska), and Senator Thad Cochran (Republican - Mississippi).

The senators will meet tomorrow with Premier Constantine Karamanlis, Defence Minister Evangelos Averoff and Minister of Coordination Constantine Mitsotakis.

On Thursday, they will meet Mr. Andreas Papandreu, the leader of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement main opposition party, and Foreign Minister George Rallis.

The main topic of the talks will be Greece's bid to return to the military wing of NATO. It withdrew in the summer of 1974 in the wake of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus.

Greece has already rejected several plans submitted by NATO's supreme commander in Europe, claiming it gave Turkey increased control over Aegean air space and the Aegean Sea.

The Greek leaders are expected

to stress to the American senators that Greece's re-entry should be based on a 1978 agreement by former NATO commander General Alexander Haig and the then commander of Greek armed forces General Ioannis Davos.

That agreement was accepted by Greece but later modified by General Haig to meet Turkish demands. The revised plan was rejected by Greece in May 1979.

Greece and Turkey are at odds over territorial rights in the Aegean and air and sea control in the same area.

Greece's return to NATO is being blocked by Turkey, which wants to see the problem of control in the Aegean Sea settled first.

The original Haig-Davos plan recommended that problems related to the operational control in the Aegean should not be interconnected until after Greece's re-entry.

Diplomatic sources here said that the United States is eager to see Greece back in NATO's military structure in order to consolidate the alliance's south-eastern flank in view of the impending death of President Tito, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the crisis in American-Iranian relations.

The Greek leaders are expected

World News Briefs

ANKARA, April 8 (R) -- A high-ranking government official was shot and seriously wounded in central Ankara today, police said. Mr. Bulent Ozturkmen, deputy undersecretary of the Trade Ministry, was attacked while riding in his chauffeur-driven car. The gunman escaped. Attacks against high-ranking government officials are uncommon in Turkey. Gunbattles between right and left-wing extremists claim an average of seven lives a day but involve mainly students, workers and militants.

SUVA, Fiji, April 8 (AP) -- Fiji's Ministry of Health today said into flood-stricken areas of the island of Viti Levu with a campaign to immunise flood victims against possible disease. A cyclone with torrential rain, floods and landslides caused heavy damage in a wide area around Suva, the capital, over Easter. The confirmed death toll rose to 16 today, with several others missing and presumed dead. A broadcast over Radio Fiji today, Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamis Mara said damage was "colossal" and the government did not have the means to give help to everyone needing it. "Fiji has suffered from severe hurricanes in the past but never have we experienced a succession of disastrous cyclones in so short a time," he said. The count had still not recovered from hurricane Meli in March 1979. Earlier this year, cyclone Wally came only a week after cyclone Tia. Mr. Mara said the United States had joined Australia and New Zealand in supplying aid with an immediate \$25,000 grant.

NEW DELHI, April 8 (R) -- Indian Premier Indira Gandhi today made a personal appeal to her cabinet ministers to live a more austere life. In letters to her colleagues, she asked them to set an example for the people by avoiding wasteful spending and display of wealth. She discouraged elaborate dinners in both private and public functions. "We can be hospitable without showing off. We can be friendly without flattery and without extravagance," she said. Mrs. Gandhi, who opened a conference here of state governors and ministers, also appealed to the nation to practise austerity at a time when some essential commodities were not available and a severe drought was causing suffering in most states.

OSCHATZ, East Germany, April 8 (R) -- The Soviet Union today pulled an artillery unit out of East Germany as part of a 500 troop and tank withdrawal promised by President Le Brezhnev. About 100 Soviet soldiers, 18 heavy artillery guns and eight lorries left by rail from this small town northeast of Leipzig. President Brezhnev said in East Berlin last October that up to 20 Soviet troops and 1,000 tanks would be withdrawn from East Germany within a year. The pull-out began last December and units were withdrawn in February. According to Western estimates the Soviet Union had more than 370,000 troops and 7,000 tanks in East Germany when President Brezhnev announced the withdrawal. Lieutenant-General Vyacheslav Gordiyenko, deputy commander-in-chief of Soviet forces in East Germany, watched yesterday's withdrawal ceremony, which included speeches attacking the policies of the Western military alliance. Western journalists brought to Oshatz by bus from East Berlin, have been invited to witness another pull-out of Soviet troops on April 16.

LONDON, April 8 (R) -- Queen Elizabeth has decorated a helicopter pilot of Britain's Royal Air Force for braving a savage blizzard on Olympus Mountains of Cyprus to rescue a seriously ill baby girl. Flight Lieutenant John Francis Martin Kaye, 33, serving in Nicosia, part of the United Nations peacekeeping force, who receives Queen's Commendation for valuable service in the air. The British Defence Ministry today said the pilot, flying in heavy snow, had to make three attempts on Jan. 5 before rescuing a baby from a remote village, and if it had not been for his gallantry would have died.

Pakistan opposition party defies Zia's ban on political activity

KARACHI, April 8 (R) -- The policy-making body of Pakistan's opposition centrist Tehrik Istiqlal party met during the weekend in defiance of President Zia Ul Haq's ban on political activity and passed resolutions demanding an end to martial law and the release of all political prisoners.

The party's leader, retired air marshal Asghar Khan, is under house arrest in Abbottabad, a garrison town in Pakistan's north-west frontier province. A petition challenging his detention and the legality of General Zia's military government is being heard in the Punjab provincial high court in Lahore.

His lawyer and acting president of the party, Mr. Mian Mahmud Ali Kasuri, met 65 members of the

Tehrik central working committee in Lahore on Saturday and Sunday ostensibly to discuss the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and its effect on Pakistan, party sources reported here.

They said the committee agreed that Pakistan's "non-elected, unrepresentative and unpopular military regime" was not equipped to meet the wide-ranging challenges that the Soviet action posed to the country. The committee demanded that martial law be lifted immediately and the armed forces return to their duty of defending Pakistan.

The politicians called for immediate elections on a direct adult franchise for both national and provincial assemblies and ruled that General Zia had no mandate to make changes in the country's 1973 constitution.

General Zia, in his efforts to establish power bases outside Pakistan's traditional political parties, has put forward several suggestions for restricting the franchise and proposed proportional representation in addition to the setting up of various advisory bodies of different pressure groups. All his efforts have been rejected by the political parties including his former supporters.

The Tehrik central working committee demanded that the three major political party leaders still in detention, Mr. Asghar Khan and Mrs. Begum Nusrat Bhutto and her daughter Benazir, who lead the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) of executed prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, be released immediately along with

other politicians, party workers and students in jail.

Mrs. Bhutto and Miss Bhutto are due appear in court in Karachi tomorrow in connection with their petition challenging their detention. They were arrested at the same time as Mr. Asghar Khan in October last year when General Zia cancelled general elections he had promised in November, outlawed all political parties, banned political activity and imposed a more rigorous form of martial law.

Mr. Asghar Khan is a well-known political figure with large personal support among military officers, wealthy businessmen and professional people, but his party lacks a substantial base and in the past has had few election victories.

addressing during the Health Day campaign, although it was part of a general drug problem.

"As marijuana is used today, often only at weekends, I would say it is much safer than the use of cigarettes, where the typical user engages in it 25 to 30 times a day," he said.

But Dr. Horn said he would hesitate to describe the results if a marijuana user smoked that number of marijuana cigarettes.

Dr. Horn said cigarettes with a higher tar level than any obtainable in the U.S. since 1950 were being manufactured under low-tar labels in developing countries. "Whether it is an attempt to develop addiction, I cannot say," he said.

Earlier the head of WHO, Dr. Halldan Mahler, called for much greater and sustained efforts to beat the cigarette habit.

Dr. Mahler said smoking was probably the largest single preventable cause of ill health in the world. A drive to reduce this, particularly among children and teenagers, should have the leadership and support of national and local authorities.

He said cigarette smoking was increasing in the Third World, even as it abated in many Western countries, threatening to become a major new health hazard for developing countries.

WHO said that, while every Western country required a health warning a cigarette pack -- Sweden, for example, uses 16 separate cautionary messages, no developing country demanded this "for the potential victims."

And while there was a significant switch in rich countries to low-tar cigarettes, manufacturers were selling under the same labels in the Third World cigarettes containing up to four times as much of the dangerous tars.

Brezhnev: No plans to step down

By Robert Evans

MOSCOW -- Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev issued a clear signal this week that he has no plans to step down despite advancing age and recurring ill-health.

In an apparently buoyant mood, the 73-year-old president and Communist Party chief told a Moscow meeting of top officials that he was determined to devote all his strength to raising living standards at home and defending

of our country and the whole of mankind."

Mr. Brezhnev appeared for the occasion after three weeks away from the public view during which he -- and other members of the party's ruling 14-man politburo -- missed functions they could have been expected to attend.

The prize-giving itself, although not announced in advance, was reliably reported to have been postponed for a week, apparently because the Kremlin chief's doctors advised him against extending himself.

The exact nature of Mr. Brezhnev's ailments is still uncertain, although there seems little doubt that he frequently succumbs

to heavy colds and influenza.

Officially, nothing is said on the topic and there are occasional signs that efforts are made to present him to the public as healthier than he actually is.

In the televised version of this week's ceremony, he spoke much more quickly and even more clearly than he has done for a decade, and moved surprisingly rapidly in turning over the pages of his text, prompting some speculation that the recording may have been played back at a slightly higher speed.

But although Mr. Brezhnev himself spoke of the rapid passing of time and the need to pass on accumulated experience to the young generation, there was no sense that his own departure might be imminent or even under consideration.

1980, the president declared, was to be dedicated to active preparation for next year's 26th party

congress which would determine the strategy of our further movement ahead on the road of communist construction."

If Mr. Brezhnev were planning to become the first Kremlin number one to step down voluntarily and in good standing, the congress would provide a suitable occasion, coming almost certainly at the end of next winter.

The gathering, to be attended by some 5,000 delegates from all parts of the Soviet Union, nominally elects the politburo and the Central Committee, the party's parliament, of which he is general secretary.

But there is no sign of any preparation for such an eventuality -- either in the form of unusual public exposure of any potential new leader or of any real pressure on Mr. Brezhnev from his colleagues.

Despite economic problems reflected in a slowing of growth rates and the souring of the detente relationship with the United States, Soviet officials continue to exude confidence that history is on their side.

Although some intellectuals recount scathing jokes about the ageing leadership and ordinary Russians complain of erratic food supplies, there is no feeling in Moscow of momentous events in the air.

While there has been widespread speculation in the West that the intervention in Afghanistan may have been a miscalculation, in Moscow it appears more of a demonstration of Kremlin dedication to acting firmly in the pursuit of Soviet interests.

The move has been coupled with a clear declaration of Kremlin intent to aid any left-wing regime that might appear in danger from what Moscow sees as "counter-revolutionary forces" to the best of Russian ability anywhere in the world.

In private, Soviet insiders contrast this determination with what they see as weakness and lack of self-confidence in Washington and overall disarray in the Western alliance as displayed in reaction to the Afghan affair.

On the home front, the Soviet authorities have effectively decapitated the amorphous dissident movement by despatching physicist Andrei Sakharov into provincial exile and arresting many of the leading dissenters.

Mr. Brezhnev himself subjected a number of the country's economic ministers to severe public criticism in a major speech last November which was one of

the frankest addresses ever by a Kremlin chief on this subject. But implicit in his blast was a message that the named officials, some of whom are personally close to him, had a period of perhaps until the party congress to put their respective house in order.

Just how long the present line-up can survive present form therefore largely depends on the health of the top men in the Kremlin.

Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin, 76, suffered a severe heart attack last October which one pronounced surgeon who attended described privately as "a case to show my students."

Although recovered enough to resume occasional public appearances and to undergo an operation in March for the removal of cataracts, Mr. Andrei Kirilenko, 70, substitutes for Mr. Brezhnev party role and recently also in for Mr. Kosygin in economic talks with a visiting delegation from Nicaragua, appears to be the top four, whose age is 75, Mr. Brezhnev youngest -- by a few months -- junior of Mr. Kirilenko, the able temporary successor to Kremlin chief to be struck.

But there is still no indication of any obvious candidate to Mr. Brezhnev -- now the 11th serving top Soviet leader from Stalin.

Over recent weeks, Minister Andrei Gromyko, Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov have appeared to be unusually prominent role both have backgrounds limited by their specialties -- and by over 70.

If, as seems certain, one of the members of the present line-up is to be replaced by the general secretary's post, then only a succession would be possible unless Leningrad's 56-year-old party chief Grigory Yavlinskii could move to the fore.

However, Mr. Romano is in the party organisation side his home city and none in dealing with foreign in a period when the Kremlin must inevitably play a major role in conducting external relations.

REUTERS



Leonid Brezhnev (Gamma photo)

world peace.

His leadership colleagues on the platform, as well as other speakers at the meeting, called to present Mr. Brezhnev with a state prize for literature, implicitly endorsing his determination to stay at the helm.

As seen in a recording of the occasion televised throughout the country later in the day, he was resoundingly applauded for a pledge to "continue in the future doing everything in my power to implement successfully our party's Leninist policy."

He also promised to try to find time among his other duties to continue writing his autobiography, the first three instalments of which were officially hailed as great works and brought him the prize.

War veterans, scientists and cultural figures who spoke at the ceremony wished him "strong health...further increasing creative energy and success...for the good

of our country and the whole of mankind."

Officially, nothing is said on the topic and there are occasional signs that efforts are made to present him to the public as healthier than he actually is.

In the televised version of this week's ceremony, he spoke much more quickly and even more clearly than he has done for a decade, and moved surprisingly rapidly in turning over the pages of his text, prompting some speculation that the recording may have been played back at a slightly higher speed.

But although Mr. Brezhnev himself spoke of the rapid passing of time and the need to pass on accumulated experience to the young generation, there was no sense that his own departure might be imminent or even under consideration.

1980, the president declared, was to be dedicated to active preparation for next year's 26th party



Controversial mural, sans curtain rail (photo by Hou Bo)

سورة الفاتحة